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U.S. EXPANDS CORRUPTION CHARGES AGAINST
STONY POINT TOWN SUPERVISOR STEVEN HURLEY

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York; PASQUALE D'AMURO, the Assistant Director In Charge of the FBI's New York Field Office; and MICHAEL E. BONGIORNO, the District Attorney of Rockland County, announced that a federal grand jury in White Plains returned a new superseding Indictment today, adding new extortion charges to the fraud, bribery and embezzlement charges already pending against STEVEN M. HURLEY, the Town Supervisor of Stony Point, New York.

The new charges allege that between 1998 and 2002, HURLEY used the power of his office and fear of economic injury to extort more than \$14,000 from a contractor working in the Town of Stony Point, whose work involved the use of items that traveled interstate. The charge is brought under a statute commonly referred to as the Hobbs Act.

The nine-count superseding Indictment also provides

greater detail about a scheme to deprive the citizens of Stony Point of HURLEY's honest services in which HURLEY and ABRAHAM GOLDBERGER - a real estate developer with various projects in Stony Point - are already charged. The new Indictment continues to charge HURLEY and GINA VAN BEVER, the woman with whom HURLEY was living, with taking at least \$5,200 in contributions to HURLEY's campaign and diverting those contributions to their personal bank accounts in order to make them available for their personal use.

The superseding Indictment alleges that HURLEY directed to GOLDBERGER a contract to install new water lines to the buildings on a property known as Letchworth Village, without following the State law bidding requirements for a project of this size, and had the Town pay GOLDBERGER \$10,200 above the contract price of \$85,750, although no extra work was done.

The superseding Indictment also substitutes a forgery charge for what had been charged as bank fraud and a conspiracy to commit bank fraud.

The new charges in the superseding Indictment follow those contained in the original Indictment, which the grand jury returned on March 4, 2003 - shortly after HURLEY's February 10, 2003, arrest, in a first superseding Indictment, returned on April 24, 2003, and in a second superseding Indictment, returned on May 29, 2003.

The charges in the superseding Indictment against HURLEY provide, upon conviction, a combined possible maximum of more than 100 years in prison and fines of well over \$1 million.

GOLDBERGER faces charges that upon conviction provide a combined possible maximum of 40 years in prison and \$750,000 in fines.

The charges in the superseding Indictment against VAN BEVER carry a possible maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

HURLEY's case is assigned to United States District Judge BARBARA S. JONES. No date has been scheduled for the arraignment of HURLEY, GOLDBERGER and VAN BEVER on the charges in the superseding Indictment. The next conference in the case is now scheduled for September 2, 2003, in White Plains federal court in White Plains, and trial is now scheduled for September 22, 2003.

Mr. COMEY again praised the cooperative efforts of the FBI and the Office of Rockland County District Attorney MICHAEL E. BONGIORNO. Mr. COMEY added that the corruption investigation is continuing.

MARIA BARTON, Deputy Chief of the White Plains Division, and Assistant United States Attorney STEPHEN J. RITCHIN are in charge of the prosecution.

The charges in the Indictment are merely accusations, and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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